



Plenary sitting

RC9-xxxx/2022

04.10.2022

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on Russia's escalation of its war of aggression against Ukraine

Michael Gahler, Andrius Kubilius, Rasa Jukneviene, Zeljana Zovko, David McAllister, Evangelos Meimarakis, Siegfried Muresan, Paulo Rangel, Jerzy Buzek, Traian Basescu, Vladimir Bilcik, Vasile Blaga, Daniel Buda, Daniel Caspary, Peter van Dalen, Gheorghe Falca, Tomasz Frankowski, Andrzej Halicki, Mircea-Gheorghe Hava, Sandra Kalniete, Arba Kokalari, Ewa Kopacz, Andrey Kovatchev, David Lega, Miriam Lexmann, Antonio Lopez-Isturiz White, Elzbieta Lukaciejewska, Ausra Maldeikiene, Lukas Mandl, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Gabriel Mato, Liudas Mazylis, Francisco Millan-Mon, Janina Ochojska, Radoslaw Sikorski, Michaela Sojdrova, Eugen Tomac, Inese Vaidere, Lorant Vincze, Isabel Wiseler-Lima, Alexander Yordanov, Milan Zver

on behalf of the EPP Group

... on behalf of S&D

... on behalf of Renew Europe

... on behalf of ECR Group

... on behalf of Greens/EFA

European Parliament resolution on Russia's escalation of its war of aggression against Ukraine

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Ukraine and Russia,
- having regard to the UN Charter;
- having regard to the Helsinki Final Act of 1975,
- having regard to the Statement by the Members of the European Council on Ukraine of 30 September 2022 and the G-7 Foreign Ministers Statement of 30 September 2022
- having regard to Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the illegal sham “referenda” by Russia in the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions of 28 September 2022,
- having regard to press statement by President von der Leyen on a new package of restrictive measures against Russia of 29 September 2022 and the message of President Charles Michel on Russia's illegal annexation of Ukrainian regions of 30 September 2022,
- having regard to the Declarations by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine of 22 September 2022 and on the leaks in the Nord Stream gas pipelines of 28 September 2022,
- having regard to Rule 132(2) and (4) of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas, in line with the UN Charter and the principles of international law, all states enjoy equal sovereignty and shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state; whereas any annexation of a state's territory by another state resulting from the threat or use of force constitutes a violation of the UN Charter and the principles of international law; whereas this principle was recently reminded by the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres;

B. whereas the Russian Federation, as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, bears special political responsibility for maintaining peace and security in the world, but has persistently been violating the principles of the UN Charter through its aggressive actions against the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine and is openly defying the international community when announcing its illegal acts in breach of the UN Charter while the UN General Assembly is in session;

C. whereas over the recent months the Russian Federation has continued its illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine; whereas a successful Ukrainian counteroffensive launched in early September 2022 led to Russia losing a significant part of the territories it occupied in Ukraine's Kharkiv region and other regions of eastern and southern Ukraine; whereas this liberation has led to the discovery of new evidence of the grave human rights violations and war crimes committed by Russian forces and their proxies, such as mass graves with more than 440 bodies in Izyum;

D. whereas thousands of civilians have been already murdered, many more tortured, harassed, sexually assaulted, kidnapped, or forcibly displaced; whereas this inhumane

conduct by the Russian forces and their proxies is in total disregard of international humanitarian law;

E. whereas the Russian forces have suffered tens of thousands personnel killed in action or missing since the beginning of the invasion and destroyed military hardware;

F. whereas the international community continues to support Ukraine with modern equipment, ammunition, training and intelligence sharing, the latest being the US Congress recently passing a bill which will provide more than USD 12.3 billion;

G. whereas according to Ukrainian officials, their army needs modern main battle tanks, more surface to air, surface to surface systems, Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC) as well as additional training centres and contributed supply of corresponding ammunition;

H. whereas on 9-11 September 2022, regional and local elections were held in Russia and also in the illegally annexed Ukrainian Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city of Sevastopol, which the EU does not recognise;

I. whereas hastily-organized sham “referenda” took place between 23–27 September 2022 in the partly Russian-occupied areas of Ukraine in the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia oblasts amongst the forcibly deported Ukrainians in Russia, with the Russian authorities announcing pre-ordained and unrealistically high percentages of voter turnout and approval ratings for annexation to Russia; whereas the voting process included systemic abuses of human rights and intimidation, notably the presence of armed Russian soldiers; whereas the sham “referenda” mirrored the one organised by Russia in Crimea after it occupied the peninsula in early 2014; whereas Russia has announced the formal illegal annexation of these territories on Friday 30th September which was followed by an unanimous approval by the State Duma and Federation Council;

J. whereas Vladimir Putin on 21st September announced a mobilisation, Russia’s first mobilisation since the second world war; whereas the mobilisation, according to media reports includes a range between 300.000 and 1.2 million military reservists being called up to the armed forces; whereas contrary to the official announcement that authorities would draft citizens who had recently served in the army and had combat experience, reports suggest that some without any military experience are being drafted, with a particular focus on poorer and remote regions and ethnic minorities or is used as a repressive measure, in the case of occupied Crimea where over 1500 Crimean Tartars are being called up; whereas there are reports of forcible mobilisation from the newly illegally annexed oblasts of Ukraine; whereas there are reports of new recruits being sent to the front almost instantly;

K. whereas the announcement of Russia's mobilization led to protests, with the Russian authorities arresting so far more than 2,400 demonstrators; whereas since the announcement of mobilization, several hundreds of thousands of Russians have fled Russia in order to avoid the draft; whereas Russian authorities have set up conscript centres at several border crossing points in order to deliver summons on the spot and discourage citizens from leaving the country;

L. whereas Russian forces continue to occupy the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP); whereas Ihor Murashov, ZNPP director general, was abducted by Russian forces on 30 September and later released; whereas ZNPP is the largest nuclear power plant in Europe and its last reactor has been powered down in early September due to fighting in and

around the plant however the risk of a nuclear catastrophe remains;

M. whereas Vladimir Putin in a televised address on 21st September warned that if the territorial integrity of Russia, meaning the illegally annexed territories of Ukraine, was threatened it would “certainly use all the means at our disposal to protect Russia and our people (...)”; whereas utilising “all the means at our disposal” is a thinly veiled nuclear blackmail;

N. whereas on 26th and 27th September a dramatic drop of pressure was observed in the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines coming from leaks suspected to be the result of deliberate underwater explosions likely engineered by a state actor; whereas the exact volume of methane escaping into the atmosphere is hard to measure, the amount is likely to be significant and will have a detrimental impact on the environment;

O. whereas President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on 30th September announced that Ukraine officially applied for membership” in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO);

1. Reminds of the European Union’s steadfast support for Ukraine, its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity within internationally recognised borders; condemns in the strongest possible terms the Russian unjustified, unprovoked and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine; reminds that Russia bears full responsibility for the war, that it must immediately stop the war and withdraw all its and proxy forces from all internationally recognised territories of Ukraine;

2. Hails the great courage of the Ukrainian people who bear enormous sacrifice to defend their country and defend European values, such as freedom, dignity and democracy; reminds of Ukraine’s legitimate right in line with article 51 UN Charter to defend itself against Russia’s war of aggression, to regain full control of its entire territory within its internationally recognised borders; commends the bravery of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, their high moral and combat effectiveness and recognises their significant contribution to European security;

3. Calls on all countries and international organisations to condemn unequivocally Russia’s war of aggression and its attempt to acquire territory by force and the sham referenda; calls on the EU and its Member States to actively engage the many governments which have adopted a neutral position regarding Russia’s aggression against Ukraine, to build strong international opposition to any changes of Ukraine’s borders by force and in defence of international law;

4. Strongly condemns the massive and grave violations of human rights and war crimes committed by the Russian Armed Forces, its proxies and occupation authorities installed by Russia in Ukraine; insists that the responsible government officials and military leaders, and perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including genocide, must be held accountable;

5. Calls on the EU Member States and other countries supporting Ukraine to massively increase their military assistance, particularly in the areas requested by the Ukrainian government, in order to allow Ukraine to regain full control over its entire internationally recognised territory and successfully defend itself against any further aggression by Russia; calls to explore the possibility for a lend-lease military assistance facility for Ukraine; calls in particular on those hesitating Member States,, to provide their fair share of necessary

military assistance, which will help shorten the duration of the war; recalls that hesitation on the side of those who support Ukraine only prolongs the war and costs the lives of innocent Ukrainians; appeals to EU leaders to build lasting unity among Member States and likeminded countries to fully and unconditionally support Ukraine against the Russian war of aggression;

6. Calls on the High Representative to coordinate weapons deliveries through the EEAS Clearing House mechanism, including on an EU initiative of delivery of advanced weapons systems, such as the Leopard tanks and calls on Member States to immediately start the training of Ukrainian soldiers in this regard;

7. Unequivocally condemns and considers the sham referenda conducted at gunpoint to annex the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia oblasts as illegal and illegitimate; reminds that the referenda were conducted in violation of the UN Charter and international law; rejects and does not recognise the fabricated results of the referenda and the subsequent incorporation of those territories into Russia; considers the results as null and void; considers that the announced annexation constitutes a dangerous and irresponsible escalation and a blatant violation of international law and the UN Charter that guarantee international peace, security, territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states, which can not and will not be left unanswered by the international community;

8. Denounces the Russian presidential decree of 29 September 2022 on the recognition of “independence” of the Ukrainian oblasts of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia as well as the illegal treaties on integration in to the Russian Federation signed on 30 September 2022; states its unwavering support for the EU’s policy of non-recognition of Russia’s illegal actions against Ukraine such as annexation and therefore calls on the Council to adopt additional severe sanctions in response to these acts;

9. Welcomes the European Commission’s proposals for an 8th sanctions package against Russia; calls on all the Member States to approve the sanctions package swiftly, avoid any self-interested delays, and to thoroughly implement the sanctions; calls to extend it to new areas, including cutting off Gazprombank, Alfa Bank, Rosbank, Tinkoff Bank, Saint Petersburg Bank, Russian Regional Development Bank and Far Eastern Bank from SWIFT, further strengthening of sanctions against cryptoassets and cryptocurrencies; calls on the EU institutions and the Member States to maintain EU unity and to increase the pressure on the Kremlin, including through further sanctions packages, including an export ban of any high tech products and strategic goods and other sanctions aimed at strategically weakening the Russian economy and industrial base, in particular the military-industrial complex; supports the adoption of individual sanctions against persons and entities directly involved, forced deportations and adoptions of Ukrainian children, in the organization and observation of the illegal sham “referenda” as well as all members of Duma parties who hold offices in elected parliaments on all levels, including at regional and municipal levels; calls on the Member States to actively prevent, investigate and prosecute any circumvention of the sanctions; calls on the Commission and the co-legislators to work swiftly to complete the legal regime for the confiscation of assets frozen by sanctions;

10. Reiterates it’s call for an immediate and full embargo on Russian imports of fossil fuels and uranium, and for the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines to be completely abandoned, in order to stop financing Putin's war machine with EU money; calls for further ban on purchase, import or transportation of titanium, aluminium, copper, nickel, palladium,

rhodium, as well as raw and processed diamonds from Russia or through Russia to the EU and imports of iron and steel products originating in Russia or exported from Russia, including of iron ore and semi-finished products, aimed to reduce Russia's revenues and calls to minimize Russia's access to basic industrial resources, technologies and services, primarily those needed by the military industry of the aggressor state;

11. Warns Lukashenka's regime against helping Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, including in its mobilisation effort and hosting conscripts on its soil; calls on the European Commission and the Council to include Belarus in the new wave of sanctions linked to mobilisation;

12. Condemns the mobilisation in Russia, and calls for an immediate end to involuntary conscription; condemns the measures compelling residents of the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine to serve in Russia's armed or auxiliary forces, which is forbidden under the Fourth Geneva Convention;; strongly appeals to all Russian people to avoid to be dragged into this war that violates international law and was therefore condemned by a large majority of countries, was only waged to assert a non-democratic kleptocratic regime in Russia, and will ultimately destroy the Russian economy and the Russian people's prospects for a safe and prosperous future; urges Member States to issue of humanitarian visas to Russian citizens in need of protection, such as those subjected to political persecution;

13. Calls on Member States to fully implement the Commission's Guidelines on general visa issuance in relation to Russian applicants and controls of Russian citizens at the external borders, in full compliance with EU and international law, and to ensure that every asylum application *inter alia* by dissidents, deserters, draft-dodgers, activists, is dealt with on an individual basis, taking into account the security concerns of the accepting Member State and in accordance with the EU asylum *acquis* ;calls on the Council and the Commission to closely monitor the situation in relation to Russian visas;

14. Calls on the Commission, the EEAS and the Member States to increase support for countries in the South Caucasus and Central Asia who receive a great number of Russian citizens, in particular Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan, in order to maintain stability in these regions;

15. Demands the immediate withdrawal of Russian military personnel from and around the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, and to create a demilitarized zone around it; recalls that the fighting around the Plant might lead to a major disaster of unimaginable consequences;

16. Condemns the recent Russian threats to use nuclear weapons as irresponsible and dangerous; calls on Member States and international partners to prepare a quick and decisive response should Russia conduct a nuclear strike on Ukraine; calls on Russia to immediately cease its threats of a nuclear escalation, given the global consequences of any nuclear catastrophe for human life and the environment for decades to come; recalls that any attempt by Russia to present attacks on occupied territories as an attack on Russia and thus as grounds for a nuclear attack is illegal and baseless and will not deter the European Union from further assistance to Ukraine in its self-defence;

17. Calls on the Commission, the EEAS and the Member States to increase support for and cooperation with civil society and free media in Ukraine and Russia, continue to provide temporary shelter in the EU for those fleeing the war, and help with the issuance of temporary travel documents enabling Ukrainian citizens who are trapped in Russia without

their identity or travel documents to leave the country if they wish to; condemns systematic attempts on the Russian side to slow down the entry of Ukrainian refugees to the EU on the Estonian and Latvian borders which could soon lead to a major humanitarian crisis; calls on EU member states and their border control not to hinder such refugees from entering the EU;

18. Calls on the European Commission to work on a comprehensive recovery package for Ukraine, which will be focused on relief, reconstruction and recovery of the country in the immediate, medium- and long-term perspective and will further help strengthen growth of the economy starting already now where appropriate; reminds that the recovery package should be led together by the EU, International Financial Institutions and likeminded partners; calls for the recovery package to be supported by the necessary EU budget capacity;

19. Expresses appreciation for the Russian citizens who condemn the war, condemns the arrest by the Russian authorities of thousands of peaceful protesters and calls for their immediate release;

20. Calls on the European Commission, EEAS and the Member States to start a reflection on how to engage with and assist a future Russia to undergo a successful transition from an authoritarian regime to a democratic country renouncing revisionist and imperialistic policies; consider that a first step would be for EU institutions to engage with Russian democratic leaders and civil society and mobilise support for their agenda for a democratic Russia; supports the creation of a democracy hub for Russia, hosted by the European Parliament;

21. Reminds that the underwater explosions of the Nord Stream pipelines took place as the new Baltic Pipe linking Norway with Poland via Denmark was inaugurated; believes that the underwater explosions of the Nord Stream pipelines are not a coincidence and there is increasing speculation that it was a result of a coordinated and deliberate act by a state actor; believes that the explosions of the Nord Stream pipelines show how dangerous the policy of increasing dependence on Russian fossil fuels was and that the weaponisation of energy has been taken to a new level; calls on Member States to step up and treat as a priority the protection of European critical infrastructure, including off shore pipelines and cables, and to increase its resilience against external attacks and to further support the resilience of the Eastern European and Western Balkans partners; calls on Member States to undertake an investigation of the sabotage of the Nord Stream gas pipelines; considers that the deliberate underwater explosions constitute an environmental attack on the EU;

22. Calls on the EU and its Member States to work with international bodies to collect evidence and to support the International Criminal Court's investigation of the war crimes committed within the territory of Ukraine since 20 February 2014 onwards;

23. Calls for the establishment of an ad'hoc international tribunal for the crime of aggression against Ukraine, where Putin and all those Russian civilian and military officials and their proxies responsible for masterminding, launching and conducting the war in Ukraine would be prosecuted;

24. Condemns Russia's multi-layered strategy to introduce, amplify, and spread false and distorted narratives across the world; calls on the EU and its Member States to sanctions the Russian entities, individuals and other proxies spreading Russian disinformation and to take

additional measures to deal with Russia's weaponization of information;

25. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Criminal Court, the President, Government and Parliament of Ukraine and the President, Government and Parliament of the Russian Federation and Belarusian authorities.